

Minutes of the Public Works Committee – October 13, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Manke who led the committee with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chair Richard Manke, County Board Supervisors James Behrend, James Jeskewitz, Rodell Singert, David Swan; **Absent:** Peter Gundrum, Karl Nilson

Staff Present: County Board Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Legis. Associate Sandra Meisenheimer

Also Present: Public Works Director Rich Bolte, Business Mgr. Betsy Crosswaite, Building Operations Mgr. Mark Keckeisen, Architectural Services Mgr. Dennis Cerreta, Architectural Engineering Technician Mike Wells, Engineering Services Mgr. Gary Evans, Fleet Mgr. Bob Rauchle, Highway Operations Mgr. Steve Geiss, Bob Johnson and Andrew Johnson of Waukesha Metro Transit, Budget Specialist Linda Witkowski

Public Present: Joanne Robis, UW-Waukesha Asst. Campus Dean; Richard Wenzel of Milwaukee; Patricia and Tom Morgan of Brookfield, Paul Kolo, Bonnie Jessen, Lori Sagert, G. Powell, J. E. Strucler, R. Taubel, Linda Sulla, Sandra Larsen, Nancy Bauer, Lois Henn, Susan Mikolaereh, Doug Hinton, and Ted Ericces of Waukesha; Lori Hartman and Cindy Bentrup of Sussex; Connie Kraus of Milwaukee; Lori Morgen, Karen Blodgett, Arlene Gureski, Lisa Coursin, and Christine Boor of Pewaukee

Public Comment

Richard Wenzel of Milwaukee (formerly of Waukesha County) and representing the Waukesha County Coach Rider's Association spoke in regard to his displeasure with the commuter buses that link Waukesha County with Milwaukee County.

Esler stated that he talked to Chairman Dwyer about this issue. Esler said he would be attending the City Transit Commission meeting this evening regarding the projected routes on the commuter funded routes. He said it is an issue of concern that we have not been aware of.

Correspondence

Esler introduced Joanne Robis, UW-Waukesha Asst. Campus Dean, who was in attendance to observe the Waukesha County operating budget process.

Review and Discuss the 2006 Operating Budget for which the Committee Has Budget and Policy Oversight - Public Works

Bolte and staff were present to discuss the proposed 2006 operating budget. Bolte stated the Public Works budget is pushing over \$24 million with expenditures at \$24,238,663 and revenues at \$15,275,959. The tax levy is up but this is primarily due to the first year of operating the new Justice Facility. As detailed on page 287, he highlighted Significant Program and 2006 Funding Changes. The position summary shows a decrease of 0.11 positions for a total budgeted of 164.30, which indicates a stable environment by not adding or deleting personnel. Bolte stated there are no surprises on the reorganization; the Comm. Center was transferred over in 2005. He reviewed Departmental Strategic Objectives and Major Departmental Strategic Achievements (from 7/01/04 to 6/30/05). He stated that a lot of the details and related issues have not been worked out yet regarding the new Phase II Justice Facility (Courts) and probably will not be until there is a new County Executive. Regarding Departmental Strategic Objectives, Swan asked to add -- Continue to inventory all assets and develop preventative maintenance schedules for the new jail, which is planned to be open in October 2005.

Bolte reviewed the various programs, page by page, as the committee raised their concerns. He began with General Fund programs -- Property Management (mold house is coming down next month) and Architectural Services including Capital Projects. He stated that he would like to publicly thank Dennis Cerreta for his excellent work in getting the jail addition built. The dedication is October 22, and he hopes everyone will be attending as it is the single, biggest capital project ever undertaken in the county. He continued with the Building Improvement Plan and said they will only be doing modest improvements at the Human Services Center and Public Health Center.

Bolte reviewed Energy Consumption. They will be waiting to see what happens with the volatile nature of the gas market and the larger than normal increases in electricity costs. He went on with Contracted Services Management, Facilities Maintenance & Services, Housekeeping Services, and Jail Expansion, which is only in the 2006 Public Works budget to reflect one-time costs. Swan said he wants the minutes to reflect that the committee thanks the entire Public Works Department for their efforts during the new jail construction, especially Dennis Cerreta. Next reviewed were Engineering Services, Traffic Control, Permit Processing (fees increasing which are done every year), and Administrative Services, which concludes the General Fund.

Bob Johnson and Andrew Johnson of Waukesha Metro Transit appeared to discuss the Transit Services Fund. B.Johnson stated the transit program for 2006 was given a budget target. Expenditures are \$872,565 and revenues are \$120,884 for a tax levy increase of \$15,000. In order to meet that budget some adjustments had to be made. Johnson explained some of the changes and issues: 1) Milwaukee County Route #8 (Milwaukee to Quad/Graphics) is slated for elimination because ridership has continued to decline; 2) Route 8 has seen a slight increase; 3) Route 311 (from Waukesha to business parks located north of I-94): route not doing well; Waukesha Metro operates full time; funded by CMAQ grant; proposing in late December to turn into a flex route; will not change service hours or the fare; 4) Route 901 (City of Waukesha to downtown Milwaukee and UWM): proposed changes are to use only 2 buses rather than 4 which will save 27 hours per day; and 5) Route 906: ridership is increasing. Manke asked can you add extra routes from Mukwonago to Milwaukee if ridership continues to pick up? B.Johnson said absolutely, but if there isn't any money available they'd have to come back to request more funds.

Bolte reviewed the Transportation Fund, which consists of County Operations and State Highway Operations. This is where they are putting in additional general transportation aids and reducing the levy accordingly, as well as unfunding one currently vacant position. State Operations is a zero tax levy budget.

Swan asked about snow plowing and who to call in semi-emergency situations. Bolte said for state highways call 548-5902, which is the office on Barstow; for county highways call 548-7736. At night or after hours call Sheriff's dispatch at 548-7117. There is a patrol superintendent on duty 24/7 - 365 days of the year.

Bolte summarized the Central Fleet fund which is a zero tax levy budget; there are no position changes. Repair & Maintenance, Central Fueling and Vehicle Replacement Plan are part of this fund. Bolte stated for the first time in this budget, they are charging a premium to those organizations outside the county that use county services. This is being done to try to keep the budget at zero tax levy. Bolte said there are 52 new vehicles coming in 2006. They have a large

fleet and an excellent replacement plan. They minimize their repair costs that way and increase the utilization every department gets out of this fleet.

Motion: Behrend moved, second by Jeskewitz, to tentatively approve the proposed 2006 operating budget for the Public Works Department. **Motion carried 5 – 0.**

Review and Make Recommendations on Any and All Position Requests in the Operating Budget for which the Committee Has Budget and Policy Oversight

This item was reviewed as part of the operating budget discussion where applicable.

Correspondence

1. Esler discussed a letter from Ty Taylor regarding the completion of Janesville Road.
2. Swan referred to a letter and fact sheet that he received last night at the County Board meeting regarding concerns from citizens as to budget cuts the Waukesha County UW-Extension Office is experiencing.

Approve Minutes of September 8 and September 29, 2005

Motion: Singert moved, second by Behrend, to approve the minutes of 9/08/05. **Motion carried 5 - 0.**

Motion: Singert moved, second by Swan, to approve the minutes of 9/29/05. **Motion carried 5 – 0.**

Executive Committee Report from Executive Committee Member

Since Chair Manke was not in attendance at the last meeting, Esler reviewed items that were discussed and/or considered at the meeting of October 10.

Review and Discuss Airport Improvement and Airport Capital Project Issues

Singert said he didn't have anything ready today and would like to discuss this item after the Airport Commission meets in November. Some of the issues are bigger safety areas over EMAS, the proper extension of Airport Road, and having an Airport acquisition fund. Behrend said the Airport Commission should really give us a read on this.

Motion to adjourn: Singert moved, second by Behrend, to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 a.m.
Motion carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodell L. Singert
Secretary

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